241 Nevertheless, old traditions are preserved in connection with agricultural implements and habits. The Ukrainian peasant uses the ancient Slav "ralo" with one plowshare and the old plow reminiscent of Roman models, which is unknown to Russian and White Ruthenian peasants. Up till recently the heavy wooden plow was used in the steppe, drawn by 14 - 16 oxen. As with South and West Slavs, the ox is here the animal usually used for draught, and not the horse, as with the Russians.

The scythe is the most important implement for harvesting. Wheat, rye and barley are cut with the scythe which has developed curious 3-blade forms in Ukraine. The sheaves are first laid together in small stacks, composed of 30 sheaves and called "polukipok". This traditional harvesting operation is known to-day only in Ukraine and White Ruthenia. The latter nation, on the other hand, and the Russians use the drying kiln for grain which has never become common in Ukraine, being used only in Volynia and in the north of the district round Chernyhiv.

Threshing is done by flail ("cip"), a characteristic form of which appears also in Mecklenburg. In the south, in addition to threshing by means of a wheel-cart drawn by oxen ("harnanyty"), a roller is also used, while in Bessarabia and the Kuban area, special boards ("mjalky") are found, such as are also used extensively to-day in Greece and Macedonia. Threshing is mostly done in special sheds ("tik") and in winter on ice and in barns ("stodola"), which have a small floor specially for this purpose. The threshing procedure of the Ukrainian differs also from that of the Russian; he does not lay the sheaves out in rows like the latter, but threshes not more than 2 - 3 sheaves at once. Grain is stored in granaries and in the steppe also in ● 251 pearshaped pits or in straw-containers ("solomjanyk"); in the Carpathians, Polesya and Volynia the custom of storing grain in hollowed trees ("kadovby") is still preserved. In Podolia, Bessarabia and in Southern Ukraine generally maize is gathered 231 and dried in special contraptions, woven like baskets. The shape of the bee-hives in Ukraine is also peculiar. In addition to the forest hives ("kolody") there are also hives lying or standing ∞ on a log or piece of wood ("lezen" or "stojan"). The peculiar